

AGENDA
NEW HAVEN CLIMATE EMERGENCY TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, December 18th, 2024, 5:15 PM

The New Haven Climate Emergency Taskforce (CETF) will meet on Wednesday, December 18th, 2024 at 5:15 PM on Zoom (see link at end of agenda) to discuss the following items:

Attendees: Melissa Kops, Cameron Kritikos, Florestine Taylor, Virginia Chapman, Kai Addae, Linda Reeder, Florestine Taylor, Jeremy Schulick, Doug Hausladen, Steven Winter (non-member), HannahZoe Chua-Reyes (non-member)

1. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (11/27). A majority of the CETF (6 of 11 members) constitutes a quorum.
 - a. Motion to approve: Cameron Kritikos
 - b. Seconded: Kai Addae
 - c. **Motion passed unanimously**
2. Project updates from the Office of Climate and Sustainability (OCS) staff:
 - a. Community Change Grant
 - i. EPA has announced that our application has been selected for funding. EPA and the City will aim to complete the award negotiation process by January 17, ahead of the change in presidential administration.
 1. Cameron Kritikos has volunteered to help if needed
 2. Cameron Kritikos: Is there any concern that there might be some sort of presidential action to cease the distribution of CCG funds?
 - a. Steve Winter: once funds have been obligated, only congress could dissolve the program

- b. I Heart My Home
 - i. Statistics for the month of November
 - 1. 5 HES-IE participants enrolled, total 7 participants enrolled in the month of November
 - ii. Statistics since July of 2023
 - 1. Total Enrollments 437 participants enrolled
 - 2. Total people who received consultations 361
 - 3. Total people who had assessments 63
- c. EPA Government-to-Government Environmental Justice Grant: Outreach posters have been finalized and distributed to NHS, and Community Action Agency of New Haven. A Spanish language version is being produced.
- d. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant: We have installed 3 Bigbelly units (Fair Haven, Wooster Square, and Downtown). Recycling Educator Rose Ricci hosted an informational session on composting with the Bigbelly units on Tuesday November 26th. The Downtown bin is full!
 - i. Jeremy Schulick: Is there any contamination in the full compost bin?
 - 1. Steven Winter: to use the bins, you have to set up an account, download an app, and then use your phone to open the bin. The amount of steps hopefully means that only people interested in using the bins properly would be using them.
 - ii. Florestine Taylor: there was a compost training at University Towers.
 - 1. Florestine Taylor offered to update us on the compost bin at University towers at the next meeting
 - iii. Steven Winter: hopefully one day we can have curbside composting, even if we were to expand the bigbelly bins people would still have a ways to walk to properly dispose of their compost. Middletown is currently using a program where they use different colored bags for different types of

trash. We are working on a grant to adopt a similar model. The benefit would be that we wouldn't have to pay for an additional truck, but the downside would be we would have to pay for sorting and the bags.

- e. EPA [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program](#) – Implementation Grants: The grant has been awarded. We participated in a kickoff meeting with the EPA and are working on developing a data quality assurance plan. The first rough draft has been submitted to EPA for review. We have selected a consultant to help provide further detail on thermal conductivity testing of geologic formations.
- f. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA): no update.
- g. Shellfish shell recycling program: No update.
- h. Solar installations: no update.
- i. Styrofoam enforcement: no update.
- j. Housing Authority: No update.
- k. Electric leaf blower and grass trimmer: no update.
- l. Purchase of bicycles for school-based bicycle education program: NHPS has hired the part-time bicycle educator. The part-time educator and the program will start in January!
 - i. Florestine Taylor: how many bikes will be in the public schools?
 1. Steven Winter: The shipping container with the bikes has 50 bikes, and that trailer will travel to 5 schools, 2 cohorts of 2nd grade students at each school

3. Discussion Items:

- a. For Government-to-Government, Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven has offered to install an induction range as a demonstration unit. We would like to amend our previous request for up to \$700 to up to \$1,100 to purchase a range. We will continue to use the countertop unit we have as a portable demonstration device with Junta and Community Action Agency.

- i. Linda Reeder: Will there be any education on what would be required to switch from gas to induction cooking?
 - 1. Steven Winter: The Government to Government program has funds set aside for electrical work for induction stove installations, and we will be communicating that
 - 2. Linda Reeder: You have to get the gas capped as well, and that is a different trade
 - a. Steven Winter: I will look into that. We will procure a technician capable of doing both.
- ii. Jeremy Schulick: Are the induction stoves the main element of the government to government grant?
 - 1. Steven Winter: it's mainly about heat pumps and the electrical upgrades necessary to install them
- b. Motion to increase authorization for induction unit purchase
 - i. Florestine Taylor made the motion
 - ii. Cameron Kritikos seconded the motion
 - iii. **Motion passed unanimously**



Hi there,

Steven Winter is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

